

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
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RANKING MEMBER



Nita M. Lowey
Congress of the United States
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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my serious concerns about your department's announcement to withdraw the proposed rulemaking on Transparency of Airline Ancillary Service Fees (82 FR 7536 et seq.).

This important rulemaking would have required airlines and ticket agents to be transparent with regard to fees for checked and carry-on baggage. Too many consumers are surprised to learn that they have purchased a plane ticket but will need to pay additional fees for checked and carry-on luggage. These surprise fees may be financially burdensome for American consumers and can be categorized as a bait-and-switch for consumers when these additional fees are not made clear.

Especially as Americans prepare to travel for the holidays when budgets are often tight, it is clear that all the costs associated with travel should be available during booking. I respectfully urge you to reverse your decision and continue to make airfare more transparent for all consumers.

Sincerely,



Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress